CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Porcupinefish

Diodon hystrix

The porcupinefish takes the pufferfish's defence and adds a second layer to it. Like its relatives it does not inflate with air but gulps water into an enormously elastic stomach, ballooning into a s…

Quick facts

Classification: Fish
Family: Diodontidae
Habitat: Coral reefs and rocky coastal areas
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 10-15 years
Weight: 1-2.8 kg
Scientific name: Diodon hystrix

Did you know?

- Unlike pufferfish, porcupinefish have both spines and toxins as dual defense mechanisms, making them especially difficult for predators to eat.
- It inflates with water rather than air, and its spines lie flat until inflation stands them on end. It has no ribs, which would otherwise resist the …

What I learned

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